

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 114184
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:DLITT:DAM
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACoon
NEA - AGLASPIE
INR - GGRIFFIN

-----021326 042217Z /65

O R 042153Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114184

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PINR, AF

SUBJECT: TARAKI ASYLUM REQUEST

REF: A) ISLAMABAD 4262; B) KABUL 3372; C) ISLAMABAD 4384

1. REGRET DELAY OF INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REFTELS A AND
C.

2. CHECK OF INS, VISA OFFICE, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
AGENCIES' FILES DOES NOT REVEAL ANY ASYLUM REQUEST BY
TARAKI IN WASHINGTON. HOWEVER, MOST FILES FOR THAT PERIOD
HAVE BEEN RETIRED AND WE WILL CONTINUE OUR SEARCH. INR
HAS PIECED TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING RELATING TO TARAKI'S
STAY IN US, WHICH YOU MAY PASS TO FOREIGN SECRETARY:

-- HE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS AS PRESS ATTACHED IN 1952.

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(IN A CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATION WITH KABUL EMBOFF,
TARAKI CLAIMED HE HAD BEEN "EXILED" TO WASHINGTON AS A
RESULT OF GOVERNMENT CLAMP DOWN ON INTERNAL DISSENT.)

-- WHILE IN WASHINGTON AND AFTER DAOUD BECAME PRIME
MINISTER, HE PUBLICLY MADE STRONG REMARKS AGAINST THE
DAOUD GOVERNMENT AND VOWED HE WOULD NEVER SERVE THE

"DICTATORIAL" AFGHAN GOVERNMENT UNDER HIM.

-- IN NOVEMBER, 1953, HE LEFT HIS JOB AND GAVE AN INTERVIEW IN NEW YORK TO THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE DAY BEFORE HE WAS TO SAIL FOR ENGLAND. IN THE INTERVIEW HE SAID HE PLANNED TO "EXILE HIMSELF FROM HIS NATIVE LAND." IN AN ADJOINING TIMES STORY, THE AFGHAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON REFERRED TO TARAHI'S PLANS TO SEEK BRITISH CITIZENSHIP.

-- TARAHI STAYED IN ENGLAND BRIEFLY, BUT RETURNED TO KABUL BY LATE DECEMBER.

-- ON HIS WAY FROM LONDON TO KABUL, HE SPENT A WEEK IN KARACHI. THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED A STATEMENT BY TARAHI ISSUED THROUGH THE AFGHAN EMBASSY THERE, DENYING THAT HE HAD SAID IN THE EARLIER TIMES INTERVIEW THAT HE HAD REQUESTED ASYLUM, CLAIMING IT "NOT ONLY EMBARRASSED MY GOVERNMENT, WHICH I HAVE SERVED FAITHFULLY FOR 16 YEARS, BUT ALSO CAUSED ME GREAT ANXIETY."

-- CONTRARY TO HIS EARLIER FEARS, TARAHI WAS NOT ARRESTED ON HIS RETURN TO KABUL, BUT HE DID NOT CONTINUE TO BE EMPLOYED BY THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT.

3. FYI--WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY REQUEST FOR BRITISH CITIZENSHIP, BUT WILL CHECK FURTHER. CHRISTOPHER
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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